1	2	3	4
23.	Jhalu	March, 96	80.50
24.	Adri	-do-	60.30
25.	Kaladungi	-do-	121.90
26.	Atsu	-do-	79.80
27.	Hargaon	-do-	83.80
	Total		1896.83

[English]

Performance of Nuclear Power Plants

1898. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of the country's nuclear power plants has not been according to their designed load factor and that the atomic power generation system has not been found reliable;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The normative Plant Load Factor (PLF) assumed for fixation of tariff for nuclear power plants is 62.8%. The operating stations of NPCIL achieved an annual overall PLF of 60% during the year 1995-96. In the current financial year upto the end of January 1997, the stations which are operating have achieved an overall PLF of 64%. It is expected to reach 66% for the whole year in spite of the fact that the old stations such as Tarapur Unit-1 and Madras Unit-1 had to undergo long shut down for mandatory in-service inspection (ISI). The new generating units, namely, Kakrapar and Narora Atomic Power Stations have achieved a PLF of 84% and 68% respectively during the current year. Unit-1 of RAPS of 100 MWe capacity is under shut down since February 1994 for fixing the Over Pressure Relief Device (OPRD) leak. This leak was fixed recently and the unit is expected to be re-started early 1997 after approval of AERB. Unit-2 of RAPS of 200 MWe capacity is also under shut down since August 1994 for enmasse coolant channel replacement and upgradation of systems which are progressing satisfactorily. RAPS-2 is expected to be re-started by end of 1997-98.

(c) Efforts to improve the plant load factor and availability factor of the operating power plants include strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive & predictive – maintenance, improving outage management, intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly in the use of simulters, modifications carried out on the turbo generators supplied by BHEL, effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control of the grid, decentralisation of decision making to enable prompt action at the operating stations and exchange of technical information and experience through International bodies.

Petrol Pumps

1899. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications of war widows and disabled soldiers received by his ministry for allotting them agencies of petrol pumps and gas agencies during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the allotments have been in all the above cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) As per existing policy 7½% dealerships distributorships allotted through Oil Selection Boards are reserved for Defence Category. Widows and dependents of posthumous gallantary award winners and war disabled are accorded priority under Defence Category. Accordingly, during the last three years i.e. 1993-94 to 1995-96, Oil Selection Boards had made selection for 99 retail outlets and 71 LPG distributorships under 'Defence' category. In case of 73 retail outlet dealerships and 95 LPG distributorships, selection has not been made by the Oil Selection Boards as the OSBs are not in operation from April, 1996.

Central Electrical Authority

1900. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority is likely to be divested of its powers; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A study on the role and structure of Central Electricity Authority has been entrusted to Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad. The Government would take a view only after the recommendations of ASCI are finally available.

Space Research

1901. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to collaborate with the USA on space research programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the broad areas of cooperation with USA and likely benefits to be accrued therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Our country has had a long standing cooperative and commercial association with the USA in the area of space. Data from the US Landsat and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellites are being received and utilised in the country. The SI-EOSAT of the USA is responsible for marketing the Indian IRS satellite data globally.

The Department of Space and the Department of Science & Technology of the Government of India and the National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States of America have discussed potential scientific cooperation in the field of earth sciences and associated exchange of data. Based on these discussions, it is intended to formulate cooperative agreements, for specific scientific and related data exchange, for consideration by the respective Governments.

Allocation of Power to Karnataka

1902. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute power shortage in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the measures taken to ensure adequate supply of power keeping in view the agricultural needs;

(c) the names of on-going power projects in the state and the quantum of power generated from each of them;

(d) the quantum of power being supplied to the State from Southern Grid and joint hydro power projects separately;

(e) the names of the projects approved so far in private sector and the number of proposals are under consideration; and

(f) the quantum of power is expected to be generated in CEA Karnataka on the completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During the period April, 1996 – January, 1997, the energy requirement in Karnataka was 20230 MU against which the availability was 19944 MU which represents a shortage of 26.1%

(b) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in Karnataka include improving performance of existing power stations, capacity addition, reduction in transmission & distribution losses, implementation of better demand management, energy conservation measures and arranging assistance from neighbouring system etc. At present, agriculture consumers are getting a minimum of 8 Hrs./day supply. Karnataka has been allocated 40% share from 15% unallocated quote of Central Power generation in the Southern Region.

(c) Station-wise energy generation in Karnataka during 1996-97 (upto January, 1997) is given below :

Name of Agency	Station	Energy Generation (MU) 1996-97 (upto Jan., 1997)
Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd.	Raichur	4170
	Shravathy	2915
	Kalinadi	1567
	Supa Dam	199
	Bhandra	11
	Linganamk	120
	Varahi	674
	Ghatprabha	77
	Mallapur	1
	Mani DPH	9
	Total	9743
Karnataka Electricity Board	Jeg	102
	Shivasamud	83
	Shimshapur	76
	Munirabad	58
	Total	319
Bhoruka Power Corporation Ltd.	Shivpur	45
Total Karnataka	Thermal	4170
	Hydro	5937
	Total	10107

(d) During the period April, 1996 to January, 1997, as against the entitlement of 3784.5 MU from the Southern Grid, actual drawal by Karnataka was 4756.2 MU Karnataka received an assistance of 618.6 MU during April, 1996 to January, 1997 from Maharashtra.

(e) and (f) Two private power proposals in Karnataka has been approved by the Central Electricity Authority. The details of which are given below :

(i) Mangalore TPS 1000 MW

(ii) Torangallu TPS 260 MW